IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please delete the following paragraph at page 17, line 3 which was added in Applicants' previously submitted Amendment:

FIG. 17 is an elevational view of a section of a guidewire having features of the invention.

Please delete the following paragraph at page 34, line 10 which was added in Applicants' previously submitted Amendment:

In FIG. 17, an embodiment of an elongate core member 109 has a longitudinal section 11 of substantially linear change in stiffness intermediate to a more flexible proximal portion 111 having a substantially constant diameter and a constant taper section 112 with a constant taper angle increasing in diameter.